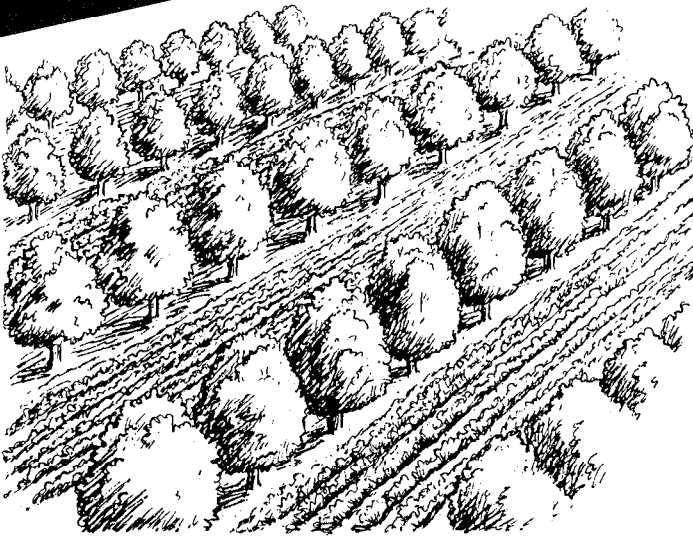


AGROFORESTRY IN MISSOURI



TREES AND AGRICULTURE - GROWING TOGETHER

A PROGRAM TO. . .

- ☐ Complement the Conservation Reserve Program
- ☐ Encourage soil conservation
- ☐ Encourage diversification of Missouri agriculture

MISSOURI AGROFORESTRY PROGRAM

The Missouri Economic Diversification and Afforestation Act of 1990 (as amended, 1993) established the Agroforestry Program. It directed the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) to develop and implement such a program, in cooperation with several other organizations. Agroforestry is the practice of planting or establishing rows of trees or shrubs bordered on each side by a narrow strip of ground cover, alternated with wider strips of row crops, grass, or other crops.

The major intent of the program is to provide state rental payments on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands, for an additional 10 year period (after the federal contract expires), if those lands are used for agroforestry purposes. In addition, the program allows for participation on lands not enrolled in the CRP.

ELIGIBLE LANDS

- ☐ Agricultural land currently enrolled in the CRP.
- ☐ Other highly erodible land (HEL), not enrolled in CRP, which has an Erodibility Index (EI) equal to or greater than 8 over at least one-third of the designated field. The EI is determined by the USDA, Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

PROGRAM FEATURES

- ☐ Annual incentive payments which, when added to any gross cash or in-kind income produced by crops raised on the land, are substantially equal to the amount previously paid while under CRP, or which would have been paid to the landowner if the land had been in CRP.
- ☐ Financial assistance to share the cost (up to 75%) of establishing the tree(s) and/or shrubs to be used in the agroforestry management program.
- ☐ Annual inspections by a technical representative of MDC to evaluate the effectiveness of the management scheme.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ The landowner must provide a written application to MDC.
- ☐ The landowner must be willing to sign a legally binding agreement for a 10-year period.
- ☐ The proposed agroforestry management program must meet federal, Conservation Compliance requirements, if applicable to the field(s) under consideration.
- ☐ The landowner must agree to permit MDC, or its agent, the right to enter upon lands covered by the agreement, as required, to determine compliance with the terms of the agreement.
- ☐ All legal owners of the property must be a party to the agreement.

WHY AGROFORESTRY?

Americans today are concerned about the environment and the effects modern agriculture has upon it. But, they also want ade-

quate food supplies at low cost. People working in agriculture feel a need to make it more sustainable, yet realize that crop yields and farm income can't be sacrificed. Agroforestry, used with conservation practices, can provide solutions to these difficult problems.

Agroforestry is relatively new to Missouri, but the general principles have been around since people have farmed. If properly done, intentionally blending tree and agricultural production in the same land-use system can provide net benefits to the individual farm enterprise and the neighboring ecosystems.

Using agroforestry enables landowners to diversify their farming operations to include opportunities for long range financial security and increased environmental benefits.

CROPPING SYSTEM POSSIBILITIES

- ☐ Trees and row crops
- ☐ Trees and forage crops
- ☐ Trees and alternative crops (ginseng, etc.)
- ☐ Trees and horticulture crops

BENEFITS FROM AGROFORESTRY

- ☐ Reduced erosion
- ☐ Crop protection
- ☐ Buffer/filter strips
- ☐ Riparian protection
- ☐ Increased biodiversity
- ☐ Nutrient retrieval
- ☐ Reduction of "up-front" costs for tree cover
- ☐ More intensive use of small acreages
- ☐ Increased opportunities for "niche" markets

PROGRAM COOPERATORS

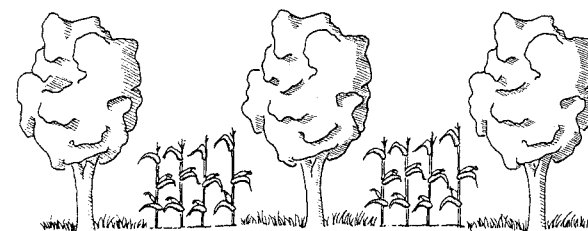
- ☐ Mo Dept of Conservation
- ☐ Mo Dept of Agriculture
- ☐ Mo Dept of Economic Development
- ☐ Mo Dept of Natural Resources
- ☐ UMC College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- ☐ UM Extension Service
- ☐ USDA Soil Conservation Service
- ☐ USDA Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
- ☐ Private Industry Councils

TO LEARN MORE

If you would like an application form and more information about the Missouri Agroforestry Program, please contact your local Department of Conservation, or USDA office, or write to:

State Forester
P. O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102

AGROFORESTRY



**TREES AND AGRICULTURE-
GROWING TOGETHER**



Missouri Department of Conservation

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, OR U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 18th and C Streets NW, Washington D.C. 20240, Missouri Relay Center 1-800-735-2966 (TDD).